

I
Prudhoe Urban District Council

County of Northumberland

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year 1963

COUNCIL OFFICES,
 18 SOUTH ROAD,
 PRUDHOE ON TYNE,
 NORTHUMBERLAND.
Telephone Nos. : Prudhoe 281 and 282.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : Councillor Dr. D. L. GOLIGHTLY

Members :

Councillors : Mrs. P. GRANGE
 J. J. HESLOP
 A. R. JOHNSTON
 Mrs. F. McBRIDE
 J. RIDLEY
 Alderman Rev. R. E. ROBSON, J.P.
 R. J. SCOTT
 J. L. STOKOE

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OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH : MADGE HOPPER,
 SOUTH AREA HEALTH OFFICE, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.
 Newburn Road,
 THROCKLEY,
 Tel. : Lemington 674365.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR : W. G. TWEDDLE, M.A.P.H.I.

CLERK AND SHORTHAND/TYPIST : Miss J. GRAY

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year Ended 31st December, 1963

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I again have the honour to present the Annual Report to you.

This year the population increased by 150 according to the Registrar General's mid-year estimate.

Only slight variations showed in the vital statistics for the year. The birth and death rates were similar to those of the previous year. The infant mortality rate however rose from 17.8 to 28.6 per 1,000 live births due to an increase of two infant deaths. The five deaths of infants under one year of age occurred in the first few days of life and were due to peri-natal causes.

The number of illegitimate births rose from three in 1962 to nine this year. This was an unusually high number, the previous average being three or four.

Individual causes of deaths of residents showed an increase in the number of deaths from heart and circulatory diseases which rose by 19. The increase was in two groupings ; those from coronary disease and angina which rose by 16 and those from circulatory diseases by six. A noteworthy feature was that there were three deaths (2 male and 1 female) in the 35/45 years age group thus underlining the present trend of fatal coronary disease in increasingly younger age groups.

A very welcome decrease of nine showed in the number of deaths from Malignant Neoplasm generally. Deaths from lung cancer declined by two on the figures for the previous year, those from cancer of the breast also by two while deaths from cancer of other sites, mainly abdominal, dropped by six.

Another encouraging decline was in the number of deaths from congenital malformations from seven in 1962 to two this year.

The total number of deaths from respiratory diseases in general was similar to those registered in 1962.

It is encouraging to note that deaths from home accidents which had dropped to one the previous year from three in 1961, remained at no more than one death this year. Perhaps constant and increased propaganda and teaching is having some effect.

There was one fatal motor vehicle accident compared with two the previous year.

The incidence of tuberculosis unfortunately showed an unusual rise of five notifications of the primary disease among residents from one in 1962 and three in 1961. One death from this disease was registered in 1963 and in 1962. A decline in both incidence and mortality is the trend of recent years in regard to tuberculosis. This rise though small shows the necessity of continuing with better housing and in periodic checks by Mass Radiography.

The total number of notifications of infectious diseases rose sharply to 230 from six in 1962, the rise being entirely due to the biennial increase in incidence of Measles this year.

The prospect of the production of a suitable vaccine against Measles now seems much nearer as the Medical Research Council are engaged in a close study of Measles vaccines. If this reaches fruition Measles should become another disease able to be combatted and it is hoped eventually be eliminated.

Notifications of Scarlet Fever and Whooping Cough were few and of a very mild type. Immunisation against Whooping Cough is having a steadily progressive effect in the control of the disease. The drop in incidence of Dysentery also continued, four cases probably caused by an imported infection at the hospital only being notified. No notification of Food Poisoning, Poliomyelitis or Diphtheria occurred. There was only one notification of primary Pneumonia although the winter was severe ; febrile colds however were prevalent.

The clearance of unfit houses in Prudhoe further continued. The old colliery village of West Wylam has virtually disappeared except for Ada Street (24 houses) and John Street (7 houses) and a brand new village of modern houses with all amenities and plenty of air space round them has risen in its place.

Ten back-to-back houses at Prospect Terrace, Prudhoe were demolished and the sites cleared. In the summer, a detailed survey of the 80 bungalows at Edgewell was carried out and the results presented to the Council.

Close attention was paid as in former years to the housing needs of persons suffering from illness or disability, particularly of ageing people unable to climb stairs or steep steps, and an endeavour was made to prevent them from becoming housebound.

The Swimming Pool, opened in 1962, was much patronised. This form of recreation and exercise has proved a boon to the people of the district and in surrounding areas.

A noteworthy event in the year was the official opening of the extensions to the Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital on 27th September, 1963. The Hospital is a great asset to the town both for its excellent and outstanding work in its particular field which covers a wide range and also as a rewarding employment for many of its inhabitants.

The various activities of the Public Health Department functioned steadily during the year and the close liaison between local and county health services was a valuable aid.

I thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their constant and sustained interest in the work of the Health Department. The Public Health Inspector, Mr. Tweddle, continued to give his usual assiduous attention to the work and to the smooth running of the department, and Miss Gray, Clerk/Typist, continued to give her excellent services. The co-operation of the other officers of the Council is much appreciated.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

M. HOPPER,
Medical Officer of Health.

I.—VITAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE URBAN DISTRICT

Area (in acres)	3,889
Population (Registrar General's estimated mid-year Home Population)	10,330
Inhabited Houses	3,209

The industries of the district now comprise the Eltringham Pipe Works, the Brickworks of the National Coal Board at West Wylam, the Clevedon Engineering Productions Limited and the Imperial Chemical Industries. The Council are continually seeking to attract new industry and for this purpose several acres of ground have been reserved south of the Prudhoe Railway Station.

At the end of the year a scheme was in hand for the construction of a factory at Low Prudhoe which will probably employ 50/60 men.

POPULATION

For the second successive year, there was a very slight increase in population ; there had been small decreases in 1955 and 1960. The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population of the urban district was 10,330 in 1963, an increase of 150.

BIRTHS

A total of 175 births (93 male and 82 female) was registered in the year, an increase of seven on the figures for the previous year. During the last few years, the number of births has slightly increased each year. There were nine illegitimate births (8 male and 1 female) compared with three in 1962 and two in 1961 ; this represents an unusual increase.

The birth rate (corrected) for the year was 15.9 and that for England and Wales was 18.2 per 1,000 population.

Two still births were registered, as in 1962. This gave a still birth rate of 11.4 as compared with a still birth rate (provisional) of 17.3 per 1,000 total live and still births in England and Wales.

DEATHS

A total of 131 deaths (70 male and 61 female) was registered. Thirty (17 male and 13 female) of these deaths occurred at the Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital. In the previous year, the total number of deaths was 123 with 24 of these occurring at the Hospital.

The number of deaths of residents in 1963 was 101 compared with 99 in the previous year.

The death rate (corrected) for the urban district was 14.69 per 1,000 population ; the national rate was 12.2. The rates for 1962 were 13.6 for this district and 11.9 per 1,000 population for England and Wales.

Natural Increase of Population

The slight increase in the total number of births over deaths (excluding those in the Hospital) was again evident, being 74 compared with 69 in the previous year. This was an improvement on the low figures of 1960 and 1961.

Infant Mortality

Five deaths (all male) were registered during the year compared with three in 1962 and four in 1961. The five deaths all occurred in the first few hours of life, four were due to prematurity and one to atelectasis.

The infant mortality rate for the country was 20.9 per 1,000 live births, which is the lowest yet recorded. The rate for the urban district was 28.6 per 1,000 live births. The comparative rates for the previous year were 17.8 for the district and 21.4 per 1,000 live births for England and Wales.

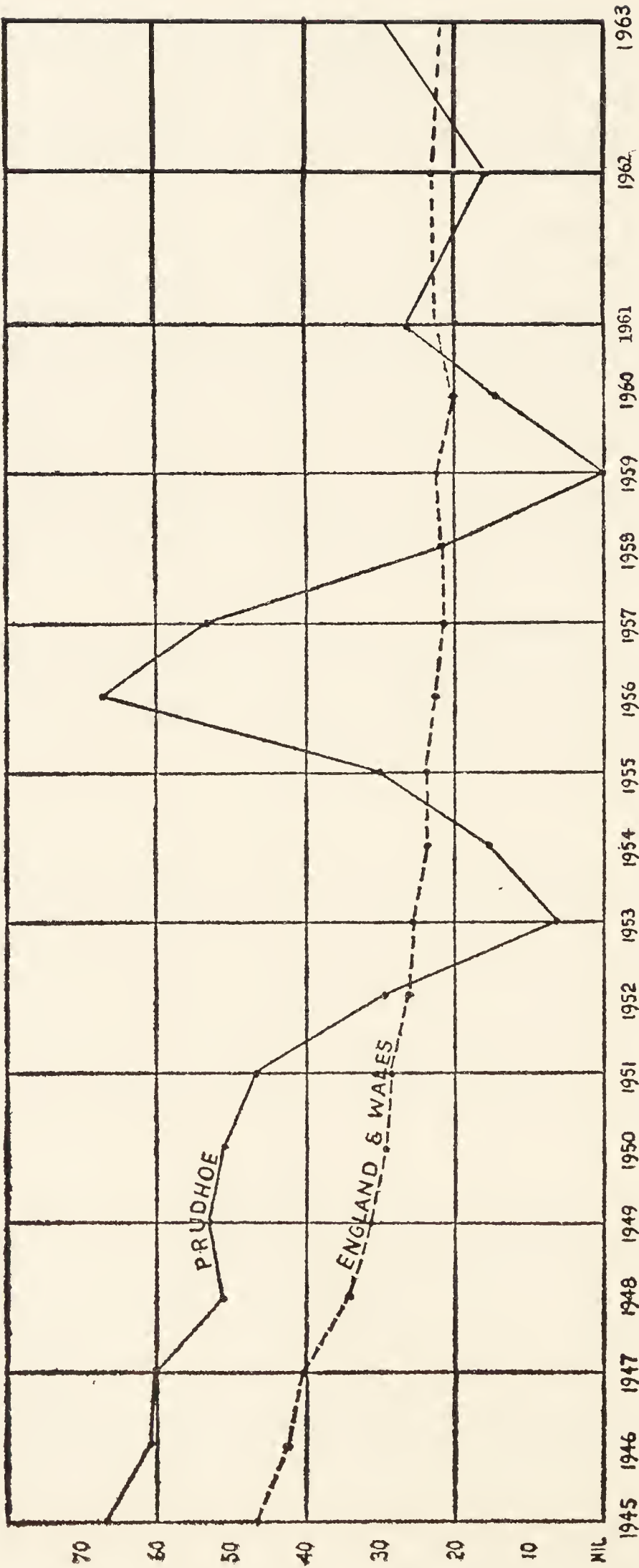
There is cause for some satisfaction in that no death was attributable to an infective cause, continuing the improvement in this respect of recent years. Ante and peri-natal causes of infant death, however, still continue and further research and effort in this field is required.

Maternal Mortality

No death due to pregnancy or childbirth was registered for the seventh successive year.

The maternal mortality rate for England and Wales was 0.28 per 1,000 total live and still births.

INFANT MORTALITY 1945 to 1963



Individual Causes of Death :

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—
Tuberculosis, other	—	1
Acute poliomyelitis	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach.. ..	2	—
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	2	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.. ..	4	5
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1 (1)
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	7	13 (3)
Coronary disease, angina	17 (4)	16 (1)
Hypertension with heart disease ..	1	—
Other heart disease	4 (4)	7 (3)
Other circulatory disease	4	3 (1)
Pneumonia	6 (6)	1 (1)
Bronchitis	5	—
Other diseases of respiratory system..	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	1	1 (1)
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	1	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
Congenital malformations	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases..	11 (3)	6 (2)
Motor vehicle accidents	1	—
All other accidents	—	1
	<hr/> 70 (17) <hr/>	<hr/> 61 (13) <hr/>

(Figures in brackets denote deaths in the Prudhoe & Monkton Hospital).

Deaths of residents in the group of Heart and Circulatory Diseases showed a considerable increase to a total of 39 from 20 in 1962. The increase was in two categories, those from Coronary disease and angina which rose by 16 and those classed as Other circulatory disease which rose by six. The total number of deaths including five deaths in the Hospital from Coronary disease and angina, was 33 ; of these seven (6 male and 1 female) were over 55 years of age, 13 (7 male and 6 female) over 65 years and ten (2 male and 8 female) 75 years and over. There were also three deaths (2 male and 1 female) in the 35/45 years age group in this classification.

The number of deaths of residents from " Vascular lesions of the nervous system " remained consistent, being 17 in 1963 and sixteen in 1962.

Deaths grouped under Malignant neoplasm showed a welcome decrease to 16 from 25 the previous year. Deaths from Malignant neoplasm of the stomach decreased by one and those from lung cancer by two. Deaths from cancer of the breast decreased by two and deaths from malignant neoplasm of other sites decreased by six. The only increase was in deaths from cancer of the uterus which increased by two.

Deaths from " Congenital malformations " which had been seven in the previous year dropped to two this year.

The number of deaths from respiratory diseases generally remained similar in both years.

There was one fatal motor vehicle accident, a boy of 11 years being knocked down by a vehicle. There were two fatal motor vehicle accidents last year.

One fatal " All other accidents " occurred as in the previous year ; an elderly woman of 96 years accidentally had a fall on the level.

There was one death (a female of 33 years) with Poliomyelitis as a secondary cause.

**TABLE OF DEATH AND BIRTH RATES
COMPARED WITH ENGLAND AND WALES**

Year	General Death Rate per 1,000 Population		Infant Mortality Rate		Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	
	Prudhoe	England & Wales	Prudhoe	England & Wales	Prudhoe	England & Wales
1951	9.2	12.5	47.6	29.6	13.3	15.5
1952	9.6	11.3	30.3	27.6	14.05	15.3
1953	12.5	11.4	6.7	26.8	14.67	15.5
1954	13.08	11.3	16.9	25.5	11.25	15.2
1955	13.4	11.7	30.5	24.9	13.5	15.0
1956	14.2	11.7	66.6	23.8	12.5	15.7
1957	12.2	11.5	54.0	23.0	14.7	16.1
1958	12.8	11.7	12.2	22.5	17.5	16.4
1959	15.06	11.6	0.0	22.2	15.2	16.5
1960	12.7	11.5	14.5	21.7	13.3	17.1
1961	15.2	12.0	26.5	21.4	14.9	17.4
1962	13.6	11.9	17.8	21.4	16.3	18.0
1963	14.69	12.2	28.6	20.9	15.9	18.2

II.—TUBERCULOSIS

One death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis was registered during the year as in the previous year. This was of an elderly man of 86 years.

Notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis among residents of the district rose to five from one in 1962, three in 1961 and five in 1960. In one case the diagnosis was made after death.

The rise in incidence was entirely of males, two of 29 years and two of 50 years. In addition, there were three notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (1 male and 2 female) at the Hospital. The rise in incidence of Pulmonary Tuberculosis is unusual as there has been a steady decline in recent years.

No case of the Non-Pulmonary form of the disease was notified.

The Mobile Mass Radiography Unit 1A of the Regional Hospital Board visited the district on the 2nd and 3rd September. The number x-rayed was 203 (95 male and 108 female) ; three persons (2 male and 1 female) were referred to the Chest Clinic.

The previous visit of the Unit to the district was in August, 1962 when 316 persons were x-rayed and three referred to the Chest Clinic. The visit in 1963, was for a shorter period.

Patients from the district attend the Chest Clinic at Hexham under the Senior Chest Physician and admittance to hospital or sanatorium follows, if required. Family contacts are kept under surveillance by the staff of the Chest Clinic and home visiting is done by the health visitors. Children at risk are tuberculin tested followed by B.C.G., vaccination as necessary. The older age groups of children at school are tested and given B.C.G., vaccination with the parent's consent.

The housing needs of tuberculous patients have always received special attention from the Council.

The Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital Sanatorium continued to receive and treat mentally defective patients suffering from tuberculosis from different parts of the region and the number of cases at the end of the year is appended below.

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
31st December, 1962	30	15	3	2	50
31st December, 1963	31	17	3	2	53

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
31st December, 1962	22	14	11	7	54
31st December, 1963	24	15	11	7	57

Classification of New Cases Notified in 1963

		<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
		<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Under 1 year	..	—	—	—	—
1— 5 years	..	— (1)	—	—	—
5—15	„ ..	—	—	—	—
15—25	„ ..	—	1 (1)	—	—
25—35	„ ..	2	— (1)	—	—
35—45	„ ..	—	—	—	—
45 years and over	..	2	—	—	—
		4 (1)	1 (2)	—	—

(Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital cases indicated in brackets).

III.—GENERAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

The total number of notifications of infectious diseases rose to 230 in the year, compared with six in 1962 and 122, in 1961. Last year saw the lowest recorded number of notifications for 31 years. The rise in the number of notifications in 1963 was entirely due to an outbreak of Measles.

Measles

212 cases were notified in the year, there being no notification of the disease in 1962 and 82 notified cases in 1961. Again the pattern of biennial increase took place. This has occurred with absolute regularity, 1959 being the year of highest incidence when 379 cases were notified.

Until a suitable vaccine giving protection by immunisation is forthcoming, this biennial increase in incidence will continue and it is hoped that this protection will soon materialise. In 1963, the rise in the number of notifications of Measles started later than in some neighbouring districts. It commenced in May with 65 notifications, rose to 95 in June, the month of highest incidence ; after that it rapidly declined.

Scarlet Fever

The number of notifications of this disease was small being six in the course of the year compared with five the previous year. All six cases occurred in the first half of the year.

Whooping Cough

The incidence of Whooping Cough has rapidly declined in recent years as babies and young children receive systematic immunisation, both by primary courses as babies and a boosting dose later. The years 1960 and 1962 were outstanding in that no case was notified.

In the year under review, two cases only were notified, both of a mild type. The graph, commenced some years ago, has been brought up-to-date and shows the increasing control of the disease concomitant with the continued high level of immunisation. Small remissions do occur, probably on account of a lapse in immunisation but further efforts to prevent this appear to be successful.

Dysentery

A decline in this disease is evident though the occasional case does occur. No case from the district was notified this year, but there were four cases at the Hospital, the infection probably being imported by a new admission. In 1962, one case only was notified and the drop in incidence has continued steadily from 34 cases in 1958.

Food Poisoning and Salmonellosis

No case of Food Poisoning or of Salmonellosis occurred. This is the sixth year in succession during which no case of Food Poisoning was notified.

Contact of a Case of Typhoid Fever

On the 27th June, information was received of a typhoid contact in the district. The contact appeared to be somewhat remote. Stool specimens were obtained from the contact and her family sent to the Public Health Laboratory for investigation, with negative results.

Primary Pneumonia and Influenza

There was only one notification of primary Pneumonia ; there had been none the previous year.

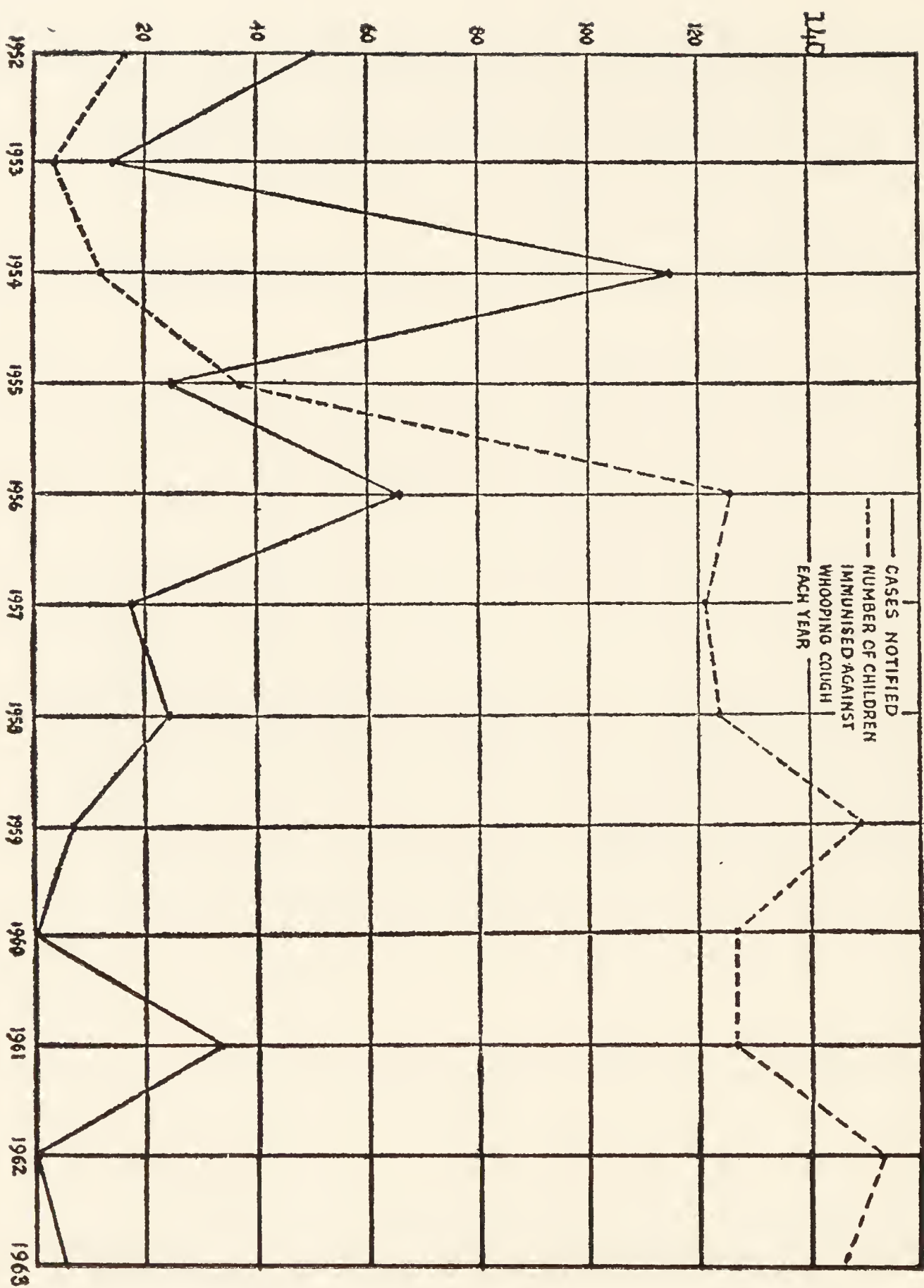
I was informed by the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance that the claims for sickness benefits had increased by 220% during the period 27th February to the 5th March. Influenza and colds were mainly responsible for the increase. As in former years, the general practitioners of the district co-operated with the Public Health Department in keeping a close watch for initial cases of Influenza as distinct from the common cold and its complications.

Poliomyelitis and Diphtheria

No notification of Poliomyelitis or Diphtheria was received.

WHOOPING COUGH INCIDENCE 1952 - 1963

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NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	1	1	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
Measles ..	6	—	—	8	65	91	25	11	6	—	—	—	4
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	212
Malaria ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Meningococcal Infection ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Whooping Cough ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
do. (Non-Paralytic) ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	7	2	—	10	66	94	25	11	11	1	2	1	230

FOOD POISONING

Food Poisoning Notifications (Corrected) as Returned to Registrar
General :

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Cases Otherwise Ascertained				
1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Symptomless Excreters				
1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Fatal Cases				
1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

PARTICULARS OF OUTBREAKS :

<i>AGENT</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks</i>		<i>No. of Cases</i>		<i>Total No. of cases</i>
	<i>Family outbreaks</i>	<i>Other outbreaks</i>	<i>Notified</i>	<i>Otherwise ascertained</i>	
Agent identified :					
(a) Chemical					
Poisons ..	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
(b) Salmonella.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
(c) Staphylococci					
(incl. toxin)	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
(d) Cl. botulinum	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
(e) Cl. welchi ..	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
(f) Other bacteria					
(to be named)	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Agent not					
identified..	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Single Cases ..			Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Agent not					
identified..			Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Salmonella Infec-					
tions, not					
Food-Borne	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The examination of faeces, sputum, throat swabs, ice cream, milk and water, was carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Bacteriological Reports

			<i>Results</i>		<i>Total</i>
			<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>	
Faeces	—	—	4	4
Sputum	—	—	—	—
Throat Swabs	..	—	—	—	—
Vaginal Swabs	..	—	—	—	—
Totals	—	—	4	4

IV.—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47— **Removal to suitable premises of persons suffering from grave chronic disease, or being aged and infirm, are living in insanitary conditions and in need of care and attention.**

Several visits to elderly persons were made and where necessary the assistance of the home help service obtained. There was, however, no need for any formal action to be taken.

Recommendations were made to the Public Health Committee for rehousing where the housing conditions were unsuitable for elderly persons due to their medical state.

Section 50—**Burial of the Dead.**

No formal action was required under this section.

During the year an up-to-date mortuary was completed at the Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital.

V.—HOUSING

During 1963, the Council continued their housing programme at the West Wylam Estate and a further 39 houses were built making a grand total on this council estate of 659 dwellings.

Towards the end of 1963, a commencement was made with a further scheme to build 92 dwellings.

Prospect Terrace, Prudhoe, ten back-to-back houses which had been the subject of a clearance order early in 1963, was demolished and the sites cleared, and at North End, West Wylam, four houses, Chapel Street, seven houses and Clive Street, twelve houses, were demolished leaving only Ada Street, 24 houses and John Street, seven houses, as the last remaining evidence of the old colliery village of West Wylam.

Edgewell Bungalows

A comprehensive survey was carried out in the summer in respect of 80 bungalows at Edgewell which are owned by the Council when it was found that a high percentage of the houses were subject to considerable dampness and other defects.

A recommendation was made to the Council that these properties were in such a condition as to warrant the making of a clearance area.

In the course of the year the special housing needs of six families were reported to the Committee for rehousing on medical grounds.

VI.—ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

No formal action was required to be taken under this Act.

VII.—WATER SUPPLY

This area is well served by the mains of the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company and samples of water taken at various points throughout the district have always been excellent.

VIII.—SWIMMING POOL

The Council's Swimming Pool in Front Street, Prudhoe which was opened in the latter part of 1962, continued to function satisfactorily and samples of the pool water which were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle were found to be satisfactory.

IX.—SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Sewage Works at Low Prudhoe continued to function efficiently and the drainage system throughout the district, much of which has been extended during the past ten years worked smoothly.

X.—FOOD HYGIENE AND HEALTH EDUCATION

Regular visits to all food premises in the town were made by the Public Health Inspector and any matter requiring attention dealt with on the spot.

The staff of the department also gave talks on public health subjects from time to time and in conjunction with a billposting company food hygiene posters and posters on Smoking and Health were obtained and displayed on all the public notice boards and bus shelters in the district.

Eleven samples of milk were taken from retailers in the district by the Northumberland County Council Health Department and the reports showed that the samples were all satisfactory.

Ten samples of ice cream were collected from various retail shops and the reports from the Public Health Laboratory showed that they were entirely satisfactory being placed in Grade 1.

XI.—WELFARE FOR THE AGED

The work of the Old People's Welfare Committee continued throughout the year. Early in the year, following the issue of Circular 7/62 by the Ministry of Health, a Co-ordinating Committee for the development of Local Authority Health and Welfare Services and the Voluntary Organisations was commenced in the South Area. A representative from this Council attended.

Regular two-monthly meetings were subsequently held during the year and it was very stimulating to observe the progress made in a relatively short time and the enthusiasm combined with efficiency with which the organisations settled down to help.

As far as Prudhoe is concerned, friendly visitors of the W.V.S., and British Red Cross Society paid visits of patients served by Home Helps during the latter summer holidays. This was much appreciated by the old people.

The Youth Organisation were busy during the year in compiling a list of old people in an endeavour to assess their various needs.

The opening of the Prudhoe East Youth Centre opens up a possibility for the setting up of a luncheon club and/or a meals on wheels service for the future, as well as the provision of some form of recreation for the old people.

A Schedule of Services Available by the Voluntary and Statutory Welfare Services was compiled and a copy sent to doctors, nurses and hospitals in the district. This Schedule has been much appreciated.

The chiropody service held sessions at the clinic and the Over 60's Clubs held regular meetings.

XII.—LODGING HOUSES

There is no common lodging house in Prudhoe.

XIII.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

The details of this section have been compiled by Mr. W. G. Tweddle, Public Health Inspector to the Council.

PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

(a) REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

Hospitals

Patients from the urban district attend either the Hexham or Newcastle group of Hospitals.

Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital

The Official Opening of the Extensions to the Prudhoe Hospital by the Rt. Hon. J. Enoch Powell, M.B.E., M.P., Minister of Health took place on the 27th September, 1963.

Phase Four of the Hospital's development scheme was completed in early November and will provide three villas (total 100 beds), Patients' Workshops and Clothing Stores, improved Administrative Offices, a Mortuary, a Sports Pavilion and other minor buildings, together with ten staff-houses.

To give a general idea of this excellent development it should be recalled that Hospital and Clinical Centre and a children's village, comfortably furnished Nurses' Home and modernised Hospital Kitchens have previously been completed.

(b) LOCAL AUTHORITY SERVICES

(Services 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 and the care of the buildings under Service 2 are administered by the South Area Health Sub-Committee of the Northumberland County Council. The other services are directly administered by the Northumberland County Council).

1.—Midwifery and Home Nursing Service

Two resident nurse/midwives named below cover these services in the urban district together with a relief nurse from Stocksfield, Nurse Davison. In addition, nurses from the Stocksfield district afford additional cover as necessary.

	<i>Telephone No.</i>
Nurse M. A. Bolam, 7 South Road, Prudhoe	598 Prudhoe
Nurse L. Kerr, 3 Gordon Terrace, Prudhoe.	405 Prudhoe

2. Maternity and Child Welfare

The Child Welfare Clinic at the Council Yard, Prudhoe holds sessions for babies, children, expectant mothers, dental, eye and orthopaedic treatment as follows :—

<i>Children's Sessions</i> :	Every Wednesday,	9 a.m., to 12 noon. 1-30 p.m., to 4 p.m.
<i>Ante-Natal Sessions</i> :	Every Tuesday, 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Friday,	1-30 p.m., to 4 p.m.
<i>Eye Sessions</i> :	2nd Thursday in every month,	9 a.m., to 12 noon. 1-30 p.m., to 4 p.m.
<i>Orthopaedic Sessions</i> :	1st, 3rd, 4th & 5th Thursday in every month,	9 a.m., to 12 noon. 1-30 p.m., to 4 p.m.
<i>Dental Sessions</i> :	Every Monday,	9-30 a.m., to 12 noon.
<i>Immunisation Sessions</i> :	1st Tuesday in every month,	9 a.m., to 12 noon.
A speech therapist attends every Monday,		9 a.m., to 12 noon.
Relaxation classes every Wednesday evening for expectant mothers,		7 p.m., to 8-30 p.m.

3. Immunisation and Vaccination

Immunisation by the triple antigen of diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus is given as a routine measure at the Child Welfare Clinic and by the general practitioners of the district and booster doses are given at the schools. The use of the triple antigen instead of using separate antigens is now almost universal.

In Prudhoe, 143 children received a primary course of this immunisation compared with 157 children in 1962. 131 of these children were born in the years 1962 and 1963. A booster dose is given some 18 months to two years after the primary course and again before school entry. A total of 342 refresher doses were given in 1963 compared with 241 the previous year. This increase shows the influence of the new immunisation schedule whereby a first refresher dose is given some 18 months to two years after the primary course.

Towards the latter part of the year, a campaign was started **not** only to give a further diphtheria refresher dose in the schools but to offer primary tetanus vaccination to those children up to ten years of age who had not previously had the opportunity of receiving it.

Vaccination against Smallpox

The total number of primary vaccinations against Smallpox decreased this year to a more usual level following the almost panic rush last year. There were 87 primary vaccinations and four revaccinations. In 1962, there were 411 primary vaccinations and 216 revaccinations.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

This continued steadily throughout the year, the use of the oral vaccine instead of injections helping considerably. At the end of the year in the South Area, which comprises the Urban Districts of Gosforth, Newburn and Prudhoe and the Rural District of Castle Ward, a total of 3,357 persons had had a reinforcing dose of oral vaccine following two

doses of Salk, 2,274 a dose of oral vaccine following three doses of Salk and 4,140 children and persons had had a course of three doses of oral vaccine.

24,187 children born between 1963 and 1943, 3,913 persons born between 1942 and 1933, 6,501 in other groups had had a course of two injections of Salk vaccine ; 28,350 persons had had a third injection of Salk vaccine and 7,792 a fourth.

4. Ambulance Service

A new ambulance depot at Front Street, Prudhoe was opened in August, 1961. The Prudhoe ambulance made a total of 707 journeys (703) carried 3,369 patients (3,490) of which 144 (113) were accident and emergency cases and 237 stretcher cases (302) and travelled a total of 27,215 (25,053) miles. The figures in brackets are those for the previous year.

The car service, commenced in 1962, continued to give valuable help and cover. It is based at Prudhoe and did a total mileage of 6,250 miles. Other journeys were made by the ambulances of the Throckley Depot and the British Red Cross Society in covering additional calls and the periods when the Prudhoe driver was off duty.

5. Home Help Service

Again there was a slight increase in the number of cases who received the services of a home help during the year from 93 in 1962 to 98. There were four confinements, two of acute illness, 90 aged and infirm persons, one blind and one tubercular case. The increase was entirely in the number of elderly people served which has gone up steadily year by year from 79 in 1961, 85 in 1962 to 90 in 1963. The service is particularly valuable in the urban district in giving help to the aged and infirm and those suffering from chronic illness.

6. Nursing Care Committees

The District Nurses keep a supply of smaller items of equipment for immediate use and the more specialised items are supplied by the South Area Health Sub. Committee as required. The Nursing Care Committees continue to function and fulfil a useful purpose. Although requests are infrequent. The Honorary Secretary is :—

Mrs. B. Nichols of 4 Aged Miners' Homes, Mickley Square.

7. Care and After-Care

The After-Care Sub. Committee of Newburn and Prudhoe held two-monthly meetings throughout the year and gave help and comforts to persons suffering from tuberculosis and other lung and heart diseases. In some instances travelling expenses to hospital or sanatorium were paid and milk, eggs, clothing and other extras provided.

The number of cases in the urban district who need this care is comparatively few but when required it is of great assistance.

REPORT

OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1963

To *Dr. Madge Hopper*,

I have much pleasure in presenting to you my annual report.

INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

Water Supply	30
Drainage (new or reconstructed)	228
Fried Fish Shops	9
Tents, Vans and Sheds	3
Factories	83
Public Conveniences	106
Places of Entertainment and Licensed Premises	11
Refuse Collection and Disposal	441
Rodent Control	121
Atmospheric Pollution (Clean Air Act)	20
Schools and Shops	58
Public Health and Housing Acts	694
Inquiries and Disinfection in cases of Infectious Disease	50
Butchers, Canteens, Dairies, Fishmongers, Grocers and Food Preparing Premises	135
Ice Cream Retailers, Manufacturers and Restaurants	40
Street Hawkers' Carts and Vehicles	7
Miscellaneous Food Visits	51
	2,087

Number of Nuisances Found	138
Number of Nuisances Abated	136
Number of Verbal Notices Served	38
Number of Verbal Notices Complied With	38
Number of Informal Notices Served	164
Number of Informal Notices Complied With	162
Number of Statutory Notices Served	18
Number of Statutory Notices Complied With	17

General Administration under the Public Health and Housing Acts

A total of 448 enquiries and complaints, an increase of 107 on the previous year, was received by the Public Health Department and all were dealt with.

Public Health Acts, 1936 and 1961

Ten ash privies have been removed and water closets provided at Nos. 2 and 4, North Row, Eltringham, Low Prudhoe Branch of the West Wylam and Prudhoe Co-op. Society Ltd., 13 and 14 High Mickley and 17 Wesley Street.

The Hare and Hounds Public House was demolished and this resulted in the removal of three ash privies.

An unsightly row of ash privies at High Mickley was also demolished.

The position at the end of 1963 in respect of properties still using privies is as follows :—

	<i>No. of Privies</i>	
Blue Bell Bank	1	No main sewer available.
Cherryburn Cottages	5	No main sewer available.
Hallyards Farm and Cottages.. ..	2	No main sewer available.
Nos. 9, 10 & 11 Mickley Station Cottages	3	No main sewer available.
No. 35 Front Street	1	
Oaktree Terrace.. .. .	1	
St. Thomas' Terrace	2	
Wesley Street	2	
Edgewell East Cottage.. .. .	1	
Durham Riding Farm	1	No main sewer available.
No. 10 North Row, Eltringham	1	
	<hr/> 20 <hr/>	

In the previous year, the number of privies was 31. At 31st December, 1954, the number of privies in use was 474 serving 700 houses. At that time there was 2,740 houses in the urban area and 25.5% were using ash privies. The picture today is of almost complete removal of ash privies only 20 remaining out of 3,209, a percentage of 0.6% and steps are being taken to remove as many of these as possible.

Housing

Repair and improvement work was maintained and up to the end of 1963, 138 improvements under the Housing Acts had been done in the previous four years. Information to house owners either as owner-occupiers or where houses were let was freely given regarding the desirability of improving property by the provision of a bath with hot and cold water system and the general improvement of lighting, ventilation and food storage.

Two types of grants are available "Discretionary" or "Standard" and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government is very interested in having as much work done under these grants as possible.

During the year, 15 houses were improved and the grants given.

Inspections of properties were maintained and a list is given of the various repair work carried out in 1963 :—

Dampness abated	5
Walls and ceiling plaster renewed or repaired ..	4
Roofs renewed or repaired and chimney stacks repointed	12
Walls repointed and eaves gutters renewed or repaired	3
Floors renewed or repaired	4
Doors renewed or repaired	3
Window frames renewed or repaired	7
W.C's. renewed, repaired or provided	14
Water pipes repaired	34
Yard surfaces renewed	4
Fireplaces renewed or repaired	4
Drains cleared	102
Dustbins renewed and additional dustbins provided.	41
Food stores provided or repaired	1
Accumulations removed	16
Scullery sinks provided	1
Gullies provided	9
Drains repaired or reconstructed	15
New drainage	18
Privies and privy ashpits abolished	10

HOUSING

NEW HOUSES COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR			With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a)	By Local Authority		39	—	39
(b)	By any other Housing Authority ..		—	10	10
(c)	By Private Persons		—	4	4

Total number of inhabited houses in District 3,209
Total number of houses owned by Local Authority .. 1,637

ACTION WITH REGARD TO UNFIT HOUSES

Closing and Demolition				No. of Houses
1.	Houses demolished in Clearance Areas			76
2.	Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas			4
3.	Houses closed, not demolished			2
4.	Any other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included in above			1

Repairs

Houses made fit

5.	By informal action			35
6.	By owners, following statutory notice			—
7.	By local authority in default of owners			—
8.	Demolition Orders revoked after reconstruction ..			—

Houses patched

9. Houses in clearance areas still in use at end of year for temporary accommodation —

Clearance Programme

10. Number of unfit houses in clearance programme remaining to be dealt with at end of year 16

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS**Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958****House Purchase & Housing Act, 1959****Housing Act, 1961***No. of separate houses.***A. Discretionary Grants**

- | | | |
|----|---|------|
| 1. | Applications submitted to local authority during year .. | 15 |
| 2. | Applications rejected | — |
| 3. | Applications approved | 15 |
| 4. | Approximate average grant approved per house | £231 |
| 5. | Total number of houses approved for grant in area since inception of scheme | 138 |

B. Standard Grants*During the year Total to date*

- | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|
| 1. | Number of separate houses for which grants have been made | 4 | 4 |
| 2. | Number of houses so provided with : | | |
| | (a) Bath or shower | 4 | 4 |
| | (b) Wash hand basin | 4 | 4 |
| | (c) Hot water supply | 4 | 4 |
| | (d) Water closet | — | — |
| | (e) Food store | — | — |

Public Health Act, 1936

Number of privy closets in use in the area at the end of the year : 20.

BYE-LAWS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 9th October, 1950. | Model Byelaws, Series (1), Ministry of Food. Section 15, Food and Drugs Act, 1955.
For securing cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air |
| 31st December, 1953. | Model Byelaws (Buildings). |
| 1st June, 1960. | Building Byelaws made under Section 24 of the Clean Air Act, 1956. |
| 1st January, 1961. | Building Byelaws made under Section 61 of the Public Health Act, 1936. |

Housing

Demolition of Clive Street (12 houses), North End (4 houses), Chapel Street (7 houses) and Prospect Terrace (10 houses) took place. Eltringham Village (43 houses) was also in the process of being demolished.

Nos. 10/11 St. Thomas' Terrace, 19 Mount Pleasant and 1a Beech Street were made the subjects of Closing Orders during the year.

Drainage Work

During the year, a considerable amount of drainage work at Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital was supervised and tested. The Hospital extensions have proceeded over several years but towards the end of 1963 they were nearly completed. Ten houses were built by the Hospital Board at Park Avenue bringing the total on this estate to 44.

Drainage work was also examined at Moor Road Secondary School (additional accommodation), British Legion Club (extensions), West Wylam and Prudhoe Co-op. Society Ltd., Front Street, Prudhoe (butchering and hardware extensions), Office and Canteen accommodation for Clevedon Engineering Productions Limited and new houses at Moor Road for Ambrose Armstrong.

Public Conveniences

These premises at Branch End, Stocksfield and Prudhoe Road Ends have required regular cleansing and attention to keep them in good order as they seem to be the target for acts of vandalism and during the year damage on several occasions had to be dealt with.

Radioactive Substances Act, 1960

Number of premises registered — 1.

Refuse Collection and Disposal (House and Trade Refuse)

This service was carried out in a very satisfactory manner despite the atrocious weather conditions in the early months of the year when roads and footpaths were covered with frozen snow and ice.

The number of days lost by sickness was 208, against 227 days sickness, in the previous year. The loss in working time is equivalent to one man being absent for a period of **35 weeks**. It is the absence of men from time to time which interferes with the regular collection of refuse as collections are made at regular times each week under normal circumstances.

The following vehicles are used in the collection and disposal of refuse :—

(a) Karrier	JNL 986	Purchased 1955	10 cu. yds.
(b) Shelvoke & Drewry	NNL 624	„ 1958	12 „ „
(c) Karrier	21 SBB	„ 1961	7 „ „

Due to the bad weather in February and March, the tip road became unusable and it was necessary to lay down sixty tons of quarry hoggin to form a decent running surface for vehicles.

Factories Act, 1961

The register at the end of 1963 was as follows :—

Garages	10
Joiners' and Builders' Premises	7
Boot and Shoe Repairers	3
Sanitary Pipes and Brickworks	3
Blacksmiths and Light Engineering	3
Battery Charging	3
Chemical Works	1
Miscellaneous (Building operations, gravel extraction, etc.).. .. .	16
Engineering Works	1
	<hr/> 47 <hr/>

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959**Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health**

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(I) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	21	48	—	—
(II) Factories not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	21	25	—	—
(III) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' Premises)	5	10	—	—
TOTAL	47	83	—	—

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

PARTICULARS	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				No. of cases in which pro- secutions were instituted
	Found	Re- medied	Referred		
			To H.M.I.	By H.M.I.	
Want of cleanliness ..	I	I	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient ..	I	I	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	I	I	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ..	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	3	3	—	—	—

Outwork

There are no Outworkers.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 13—Inspection and Supervision of Food

Butchers	..	..	..	..	4
Canteens	..	..	..	..	3
Clubs	..	..	..	..	4
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	3
General Dealers	..	..	..	..	47
Hospital Kitchens	..	..	..	..	2
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	9
School Kitchens	..	..	..	..	6
Snack Bars	..	..	..	..	1
					<hr/>
					79
					<hr/>

There is a number of travelling shops and sales vans which visit the various estates and inspections were carried out from time to time to see if hygienic practices were being complied with.

<i>Unsound Food</i>					<i>Surrendered</i>
Beef	..	..	..	..	85 lbs.
Mutton	..	..	..	..	11 lbs.
Ham	..	..	..	..	115 lbs.
Corned Beef	..	..	..	..	6 lbs.
Chicken	..	..	..	..	3 lbs.
Plums	..	..	..	..	6 lbs.
Various Canned Foods, etc...	..	..	..	..	223 contrs.

Disposal of Unsound Food

Meat has been disposed of by incineration and by burying in the Refuse Tip at West Wylam.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 24—Sale of Horse Flesh

There are no premises dealing in horse flesh.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955. Section 16—Registration of Premises.

(Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream and of Sausages, etc.)

There are 47 premises registered under this section and all these have been regularly inspected. In every case, prepacked ice cream in containers or paper wrapping is kept in refrigerators.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947

Sampling of Ice Cream

Ten samples of ice cream were taken from various retailers and examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle. In all cases, the samples were reported to be Grade 1.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Section 63—Licensing of Slaughter Houses

There is no slaughterhouse in use.

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 to 1954

Two licences are held by residents of the district for the Slaughter of Animals for human consumption.

Inspection and Control of Milk Supplies

The Public Health Department co-operates with the Northumberland County Council in the examination of milk as sold by retail and eleven samples were taken by the County Council during the year. In all cases the results were satisfactory.

Visits were made to dairies where milk is stored.

Public Health Act, 1936. Section 269—Tents, Vans and Sheds

There are no movable dwellings registered under this section.

Disinfection of Premises

A number of disinfections was carried out by the Public Health Department.

Disinfestation of Premises

Remedial treatment was given of various infestations which covered a fairly wide field of insects and other pests.

Places of Entertainment. Circular 120 Ministry of Health

Number of Cinemas — 1.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

There are no pet shops.

Offensive Trades. Public Health Act, 1936. Section 107

Restriction on establishment of offensive trade in urban district

There is no offensive trade in the district.

Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956

No action was necessary under this act.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

No action was necessary.

Landlord and Tenant Act, 1962

A number of applications was received for " Permitted Numbers " from owners of properties but no action was necessary.

Litter Act, 1958

Large litter containers were purchased and placed at the following places :—

- (1) Bus Shelter, Halfway.
- (2) Public Conveniences, Road Ends.
- (3) Telephone Kiosk, Road Ends.
- (4) Bus Shelter, Parish Hall.
- (5) Victoria Street, Prudhoe.
- (6) Oakfield Park entrance.
- (7) Neale Street Car Park.

PESTS ACT, 1949**Rodent Control**

The work of destroying rats and mice was carried on effectively during the year.

In June, the rodent operator, who had been employed for some years retired and another operator was appointed. This man needed training and I am pleased to report that the officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food were very helpful and co-operative in arranging for tuition to be given with the result that the operator has been able to carry out the work very efficiently.

The tabulated statement gives the work done during 1963. The Council's sewers were thoroughly examined and test baits laid but I am pleased to report that the sewerage system was completely free of rats.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				(5) Agri- cultural
	(1) Local Author- ity	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc.Coun- cil Houses)	(3) All other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	12	3169	88	3269	27
2. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification	—	75	6	81	—
Number of such properties found to be infested by :—					
Common Rat Major ..	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	—	27	6	33	—
Ship Rat.. Major ..	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse Major ..	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	—	39	—	39	—
3. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act	12	157	44	213	20
Number of such properties found to be infested by :—					
Common Rat Major ..	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	2	11	—	13	—
Ship Rat.. Major ..	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse Major ..	1	—	—	1	—
Minor ..	3	6	2	11	—
4. Total number of properties otherwise inspected (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	—	121	13	134	7
Number of such properties found to be infested by :—					
Common Rat Major ..	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	—	5	—	5	—
Ship Rat.. Major ..	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	—	—	—	—	—
House Mouse Major ..	—	—	—	—	—
Minor ..	—	2	—	2	—
5. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	41	246	49	336	25
6. Number of infested properties (in Sections 2, 3 and 4) treated by the L.A.	12	92	8	110	—
7. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	12	85	6	103	—

Conclusion

The year 1963 saw the removal by demolition of Chapel Street, Clive Street, North End and Prospect Terrace, a total of 33 houses. In addition, several individual houses were closed for habitation.

Site work for 92 houses was commenced at West Wylam council housing estate, which will ultimately consist of 751 houses when completed.

A further ten houses were built at Park Avenue for employees of the Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital and the site of twelve detached houses was commenced east of Moor Road by a private contractor.

The amount of housing accommodation has steadily increased over the years as in 1946 there were 2,240 houses, with a population of 9,246 an average of 4.1 persons per house as against 3,209 houses with 10,330 population in 1963, an average of 3.2. In the same period the number of houses owned by the Council rose from 421 to 1,637. It is also interesting that over 300 private houses have been built in the district.

I would like to thank the Chairman of the Council and the Chairman of the Public Health Committee for their kind support.

I wish to record my thanks to Miss Joyce Gray who has carried out her work in the Public Health Department very satisfactorily and efficiently.

Yours faithfully,

W. G. TWEDDLE,

Public Health Inspector.

